

# A Laser-Like Focus on Learners



Tricia Parker  
Director of Reading and Writing Education  
Nebraska Department of Education

# Who are these "millenials and 9/11s"?

- Born in the last two decades
- Sometimes called the “Net Generation”
- Have never known life without computers
- Have high expectations for the way in which information is delivered.

Cell Phones

Text Messaging

Satellite TV

Digital Music

Internet

Portable Tech

It's time to  
Shake  
Things Up



Ok, I know  
they're the  
“Digital  
Natives” ...  
(...so, what do I DO  
with them?)

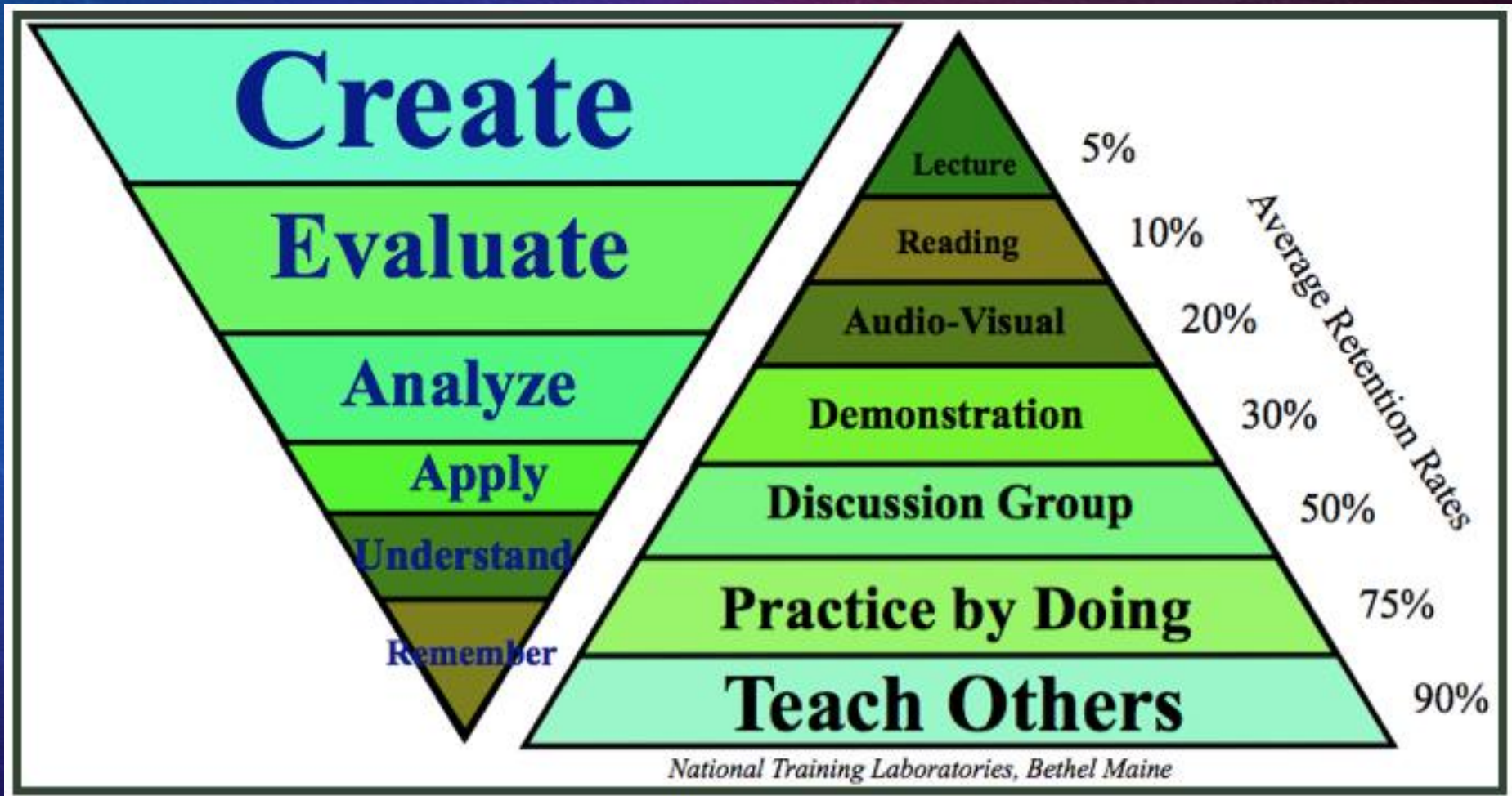


# The 3 E's

- Entertain them
  - Use learning games as a way to introduce media and to create opportunities for online learning.
- Engage them
  - Give them opportunities to interact with software that is easy to utilize and is readily present in most districts.
- Ensnare them
  - Create opportunities for learning in your classroom that will hook them and keep them coming back for more.



# Bloom's "Techs-onomy"



# Nebraska Language Arts Standards

## **K- 12 Comprehensive READING Standard:**

Students will learn and apply reading skills and strategies to comprehend text.

Knowledge of Print

Phonological Awareness

Word Analysis

Fluency

Vocabulary

Comprehension

## **K- 12 Comprehensive WRITING Standard:**

Students will learn and apply writing skills and strategies to communicate.

Writing Process

Writing Genres



## **K- 12 Comprehensive SPEAKING/LISTENING Standard:**

Students will learn and apply speaking and listening skills and strategies to communicate.

Speaking Skills

Listening Skills

Reciprocal Communication

## **K- 12 Comprehensive MULTIPLE LITERACIES Standard:**

Students will identify, locate, and evaluate information.

Multiple Literacies



**K- 12 Comprehensive READING Standard:**

Students will learn and apply reading skills and strategies to comprehend text.

Knowledge of Print

Phonological Awareness

Word Analysis

Fluency

Vocabulary

Comprehension

**K- 12 Comprehensive WRITING Standard:**

Students will learn and apply writing skills and strategies to communicate.

Writing Process

Writing Genres

**K- 12 Comprehensive SPEAKING/LISTENING Standard:**

Students will learn and apply speaking and listening skills and strategies to communicate.

Speaking Skills

Listening Skills

Reciprocal Communication

**K- 12 Comprehensive MULTIPLE LITERACIES Standard:**

Students will identify, locate, and evaluate information.

Multiple Literacies



# The NE LA Standards "gone digital"...

- Pop-up definitions
- Hyperlinks to resources
- All-inclusive + glossary

# But that's the way I've always taught!

## “Old School”

- Copy the definitions from the glossary and then use them in a sentence.
- Read the book and write a book report.

## “New Tool”

- Create an entry on our class [wiki](#) with your group to define, in your own words, the following vocabulary terms. Then move to the next computer and add to the next group's wiki.
- Create a [podcast](#) to upload to our [ning](#). Then listen to 4 other podcasts and critique them using the **interactive form** provided.



# But that's the way I've always taught!

## “Old School”

- Write a position paper on the topic of animal rights.
- Work with your neighbor to create a presentation on the theme of change as presented by our novel. You must have a large poster and a typed report.

## “New Tool”

- Research animal rights and create blog postings that detail your findings as well as your feelings as you research.
- Work with your **e-pal** using Google Docs and ooVoo to create a presentation on a theme from our novel study that ties to a present day dilemma or event. You may choose the final format (with my final approval).



How many of you feel you've  
received this unwritten memo:



Dear Teachers,

We trust you  
with the children,  
but not with the  
internet.

Sincerely,

THE ADMINISTRATION

# Four Potential Reasons For a Digital Lock-Down

- Security
- Bandwidth
- Malware/Adware
- Productivity



# Where there's a will...

- Approach your IT specialists as *professionals* with a request for *advice*.
- Bring a few samples of what you've seen done in other places, and ask them what tools may already exist in the district that will help you accomplish your goals.
- Don't be tied to a particular product or brand name.
- Don't be discouraged if you get an immediate "no", as sometimes they will find a way to make it happen for you.
- Chocolate (and a thank you) goes a long way.



*“The books I wrote on teaching will be obsolete in the next 5-10 years based on the technology available now.”*



*-Dr. Robert Marzano*

*“The single greatest effect on student achievement is not race, it is not poverty — it is the effectiveness of the teacher.”*



-Harry Wong



# Resources

- Wikispaces - <http://www.wikispaces.com/>
- Mrs. Ibrahims' Wiki-  
<http://mrsibrahim.wikispaces.com/>
- Podcasting – GCast  
<http://www.gcast.com/?nr=1&&s=161376364>
- Ning - <http://www.ning.com/>
- Blog – Pine Point School -  
<http://8englishpps10.blogspot.com/>
- Blogmeister-  
<http://classblogmeister.com/index.php>
- Videoconferencing – ooVoo – <http://oovoo.com>
- <http://exploringtech.files.wordpress.com/2010/01/free-applications-version-6.pdf>



For more information, resources,  
and a copy of this powerpoint:

Please visit the Nebraska  
Department of Education Website:

<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/>

And stop by the Language Arts Page

<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/READ/index.htm>

# Contact Information

Tricia Parker

Director of Reading and Writing  
Education

Nebraska Department of Education

301 Centennial Mall South/

P.O. Box 94987

Lincoln, NE 68509

(402) 471-4336

[tricia.parker@nebraska.gov](mailto:tricia.parker@nebraska.gov)

